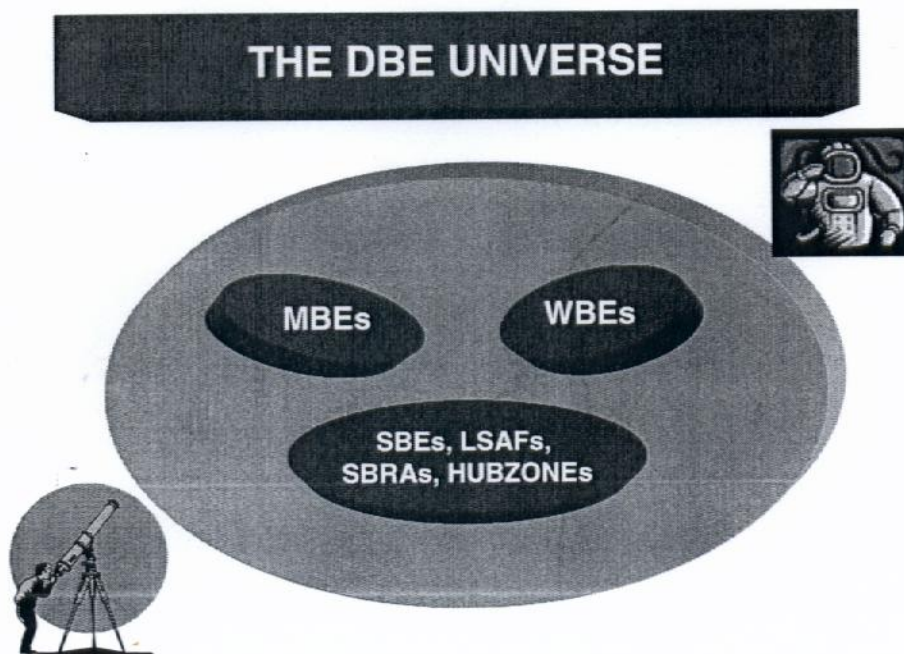


EPA's MBE and WBE Certification Program

A Whole New Universe!

➤ What are DBEs, MBEs, and WBEs?

- **Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)** are entities owned and/or controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals as described by Title X of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 7601 note) (10% statute), and Public Law 102-389 (42 U.S.C. 4370d) (8% statute), respectively; a Small Business Enterprise (SBE); a Small Business in a Rural Area (SBRA); a Labor Surplus Area Firm (LSAF); or a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Small Business Concern, or a concern under a successor program.
- **Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)** are entities owned and/or controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals as described by Title X of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 7601 note), and Public Law 102-389 (42 U.S.C. 4370d), respectively.
- **Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs)** are entities that are at least 51% owned and/or controlled by women (under the 10% and 8% statutes).
- Remember, MBEs and WBEs are subsets of the larger universe of DBEs!



➤ Who is responsible for certifying firms?

EPA OSDBU Headquarters will be responsible for implementing and processing the certification of firms. Regional DBE coordinators will assist by providing forms to interested firms. The states have no responsibility to implement or maintain a certification program for EPA.

➤ **Does EPA accept other certifications?**

Yes. Under the new DBE Program, entities can no longer self-certify. EPA will accept certifications from:

- SBA and DOT (with U.S. citizenship);
- Tribal, State and local governments, as long as their standards for certification meet or exceed our own; and
- Independent private organization certifications as long as their standards for certification meet or exceed our own.

If an entity holds one of these certifications, it must still apply for EPA certification and submit proof of its certification by these sources.

➤ **What are the EPA MBE/WBE certification requirements?**

- In order to be certified by EPA, an entity must first attempt to be certified by SBA or DOT, or a Tribal, State, or local government, or by an independent private organization, and be unsuccessful in that attempt.
- To qualify as a MBE or WBE under EPA's program, an entity must establish that it is at least 51% owned and/or controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who are of good character and are citizens of the United States.
- An individual claiming economic disadvantaged status must have an initial and continued personal net worth of less than \$750,000.

➤ **What does the certification process entail?**

- First, applications are filed with the EPA OSDBU. Applications can be obtained from the EPA OSDBU, from regional DBE Coordinators, and from the EPA OSDBU's website. The application includes the following:
 - An attestation to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information on the application form. This shall be done either in the form of an affidavit sworn to by the applicant before a person who is authorized by state law to administer oaths or in the form of an unsworn declaration executed under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States.
 - The application must include evidence demonstrating that the entity is owned or controlled by one or more individuals claiming disadvantaged status under EPA's 8% statute; or owned and controlled by one or more individuals claiming disadvantaged

status under EPA's 10% statute, along with certifications or narratives regarding the disadvantaged status of such individuals.

- The application must include documentation of a denial of certification by a Federal agency, State government, local government, Indian Tribal government, or independent private organization, if applicable.
- Once applications are filed, the EPA OSDBU will advise each applicant within 15 days, whether the application is complete and suitable for evaluation and, if not, what additional information or action is required.
- EPA will make its certification decision within 30 days of receipt of a **complete and suitable** application package.

➤ **How does certification affect a firm's participation in the overall DBE program?**

In order for a firm to be counted towards a recipient's Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise utilization, a firm must be certified. Non-certified MBEs and WBEs may be used by recipients for their procurement needs. However, those firms cannot be counted toward their MBE/ WBE accomplishments.

➤ **When does the certification program start?**

The new certification program, along with all other new requirements of the rule, will only go into affect after the DBE rule is final.

DBE Database Directory

State-by-State

State	DBE Certification Database Link (DOT)	MBE/WBE Certification Info Link (where available)	Additional DBE/MBE/WBE Database Sites or Information
Alabama	http://www.dot.state.al.us/Bureau/HR/dbc/DBElist/OracleDBE.aspx?search=ViewAll	No Specific State Link at this time	
Alaska	http://dot.alaska.gov/cvirts/dbelinks-pop.shtml	No Specific State Link at this time	
Arizona	http://www.azdot.gov/azdbe/DBE_Search.aspx	No Specific State Link at this time	
Arkansas	http://www.arkansashighways.com/Contract/ProqCon/letting/dbedirectory.pdf	No Specific State Link at this time	
California	http://www.caltrans.ca.gov/hq/bep/find_certified.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
Colorado	http://www.dot.state.co.us/App_UCP/Index.cfm	http://www.state.co.us/oed/small-business-database/search.cfm	http://www.dot.state.co.us/Bidding/listings.html
Connecticut	http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=2288&q=307380	MBE certification/non-profit certification	
Delaware	http://www.deldot.gov/information/business/dbe/pdf/dbedirectory_042307.pdf	http://omwbe.delaware.gov/certdir.asp	
Florida	http://www.dot.state.fl.us/equalopportunityoffice/DBEProgram.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
Georgia	http://www.dot.state.ga.us/dot/eoo-div/certified.shtml	No Specific State Link at this time	
Hawaii	http://www.state.hi.us/dot/administration/ocr/dbe-use-directory.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
Idaho	http://www.ltd.idaho.gov/civil/dbefirms.htm#directory	No Specific State Link at this time	
Illinois	http://www.dot.state.il.us/const/wrkcat.html	No Specific State Link at this time	
Indiana	http://www.in.gov/dot/div/legal/DBE/	http://www.cdb.state.il.us/CDBWEB_MBEFBE.nsf/websearch?OpenForm	
Iowa	http://www.dot.state.ia.us/contracts/contracts_eoaaa.htm	http://www.in.gov/idoa/minority/	
Kansas	http://www.ksdot.org/divadmin/civilrights/	No Specific State Link at this time	
Kentucky	http://transportation.ky.gov/OBOD/Directories.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
Louisiana	http://www.dtd.louisiana.gov/lettings/subsdbed/dbhq20060927.shtml	No Specific State Link at this time	https://smallbiz.louisianafoward.com/CertifiedSEBD_List.asp

DBE Database Directory

State-by-State

State	DBE Certification Database Link (DOT)	MBE/WBE Certification Info Link	Additional DBE/MBE/WBE Database Sites
<i>Maine</i>	http://www.maine.gov/mdot/disadvantaged-business-enterprises/dbe-home.php	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Maryland</i>	http://mbe.mdof.state.md.us/cgi-bin/mbedir/mbedir/BusinessDirectory.aspx	http://mbe.mdof.state.md.us/cgi-bin/mbedir/mbedir/	
<i>Massachusetts</i>	http://www.somwba.state.ma.us/BusinessDirectory/BusinessDirectory.aspx	http://www.somwba.state.ma.us/BusinessDirectory/BusinessDirectory.aspx	
<i>Michigan</i>	http://mdot270.state.mi.us:8080/UCP/HomePageServlet	http://www.ci.kalamazoo.mi.us/reports/purchasingpdf/mbewbe/mbewbe.html	
<i>Minnesota</i>	http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/process/search/	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Mississippi</i>	http://www.mdof.state.ms.us/DBEList/listview.aspx	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Missouri</i>	http://www.mdof.mo.gov/business/contractor_resources/External_Civil_Rights/documents/9-1-07mrcdir.pdf	http://www.directory.oswd.ia.mo.gov/	
<i>Montana</i>	http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/civil/dbe.shtml	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Nebraska</i>	http://www.dor.state.ne.us/letting/certified-dbes.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Nevada</i>	http://nevadadbe.com/dbe-vendors	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>New Hampshire</i>	http://www.nh.gov/dot/bureau/humanresources/labormcompliance/dbedirectory.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>New Jersey</i>	http://www.njucp.net/	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>New Mexico</i>	http://www.nmshtd.state.nm.us/dbed-public/dbed.asp	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>New York</i>	http://biznet.nysucp.net/	http://205.232.252.35/	
<i>North Carolina</i>	https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/vendor/directory/	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>North Dakota</i>	http://www.nd.gov/docs/civilrights/dbedirectory-0713-0720-2007.pdf	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Ohio</i>	https://www.ohioucp.org/index.vm?showReports=true	No Specific State Link at this time	

DBE Database Directory State-by-State

State	DBE Certification Database Link (DOT)	MBE/WBE Certification Info Link	Additional DBE/MBE/WBE Database Sites
<i>Oregon</i>	http://www4.cbs.state.or.us/ex/dlr/omwesb/	http://www4.cbs.state.or.us/ex/dlr/omwesb/	
<i>Pennsylvania</i>	http://www.paucp.com/UCP/HomePageServlet?disclaimer=no http://www.dot.state.pa.us/contracting/bids/MBE%20WBE%20DBE%20Directory%206-25-07.pdf	http://www.bscoc.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=14378&PageID=254093&level=2&css=L2&mode=2&in_hl_userid=2&cached=true	http://www.dgsweb.state.pa.us/imaginedpa/bcabcd/vendor_search.asp
<i>Rhode Island</i>	http://www.dot.state.sc.us/doing/dbe_listing.shtml	http://www.mbe.ri.gov/search.php	
<i>South Carolina</i>	http://www.sddot.com/Operations/certified.asp	http://www.govocpp.state.sc.us/osmba/directory.html	
<i>South Dakota</i>	http://www.sddot.state.in.us/construction/DBE%20list/dbe_list.pdf	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Tennessee</i>	http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/business_opportunity_programs/tucp_dbe_directory.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/tucp/default.htm
<i>Texas</i>	http://www.dot.state.ut.us/main/f?p=100:pg:2223043879243424700::1:T,V:198	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Utah</i>	http://www.aot.state.vt.us/CivilRights/DBEDirectory.htm	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Vermont</i>	http://www.dmbc.virginia.gov/swam_reports/dbe_listing.htm.gz	http://www.dmbc.virginia.gov/swam_reports/all.html.gz	http://www.dmbc.state.va.us/cgi-bin/dbe_search.cgi
<i>Virginia</i>	http://www.owmbe.wa.gov/biznetwas/	http://www.owmbe.wa.gov/biznetwas/	
<i>Washington</i>	http://www.wvdot.com/3_roadways/3d9b_contract.cfm	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>West Virginia</i>	https://www.triconsultants.com/wisdol/Reports/WisDotUCPDirectory.aspx	http://commerce.wi.gov/php/mbe-od//alpha_result_page.php	
<i>Wisconsin</i>	http://www.dot.state.wy.us/Default.asp?sCode=bizdb	No Specific State Link at this time	
<i>Wyoming</i>			

DBE Database Directory

State-by-State

U.S. Territories/Districts	DBE Directories Links/Resource Assistance	Additional Resource Links or Information
<i>American Samoa</i>	http://www.govt.ws/	Government of Samoa Website
<i>Washington D.C.</i>	http://www.wmata.com/bus2bus/dbef/forms/MWUCP_directory.pdf	http://www.metwashairports.com/business_information/contracting_opportunities/equal_opportunity_programs/fdbe_dbe_directory
<i>Guam</i>	http://www.guamchamber.com.gu/?pg=contact	Link to Guam Chamber of Commerce
<i>Northern Marianas</i>	commercedept@plicom.com	Department of Commerce Email
<i>Puerto Rico</i>	http://www.dtop.gov.pr/act/DirCiviles/DBE2006.htm	
<i>U.S. Virgin Islands</i>	Sharon Chailenger, CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM MANAGER, V.I. DOT Phone: (340) 773-1290 ext.2292	directory available - may not be electronic
DOT DBE Program Links State by State	sinesses/By Industry Private Businesses/Subcontractors/subcontractors.html	Link to all DOT sites state by state with additional links to Universities and Non-profits
MBE/WBE Directory:	http://www.themwbedirectory.com/	National directory that is free to its members.